



## Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Vienna (Austria), Demonstrations Planned Near Hofburg

Political Violence

Europe > Austria > Vienna

1/26/2016

The U.S. Embassy in Vienna informs U. S. citizens that on the evening of January 29th, 2016, the Wiener Akademiker Ball will take place at the Hofburg Palace in the First District. Similar to years past, police will close down the area near the Hofburg Palace and Heldenplatz in anticipation of a large and unruly demonstration. Two years ago police reported approximately 3,000 demonstrators with a number of arrests, several minor injuries, and damage to parked vehicles and storefronts. Last year there was sporadic violence and demonstrations.

Access to the area immediately surrounding the ball venue will be restricted to ball guests, residents, and business owners after 5:00 pm on Friday January, 29<sup>th</sup> 2016. Street closures in the area—both inside the Ring road and to the South of Wipplingerstrasse and West of Rotenturmstrasse/Kartnerstrasse will begin at 3:00 pm the same day and will include a heavy police presence.

Residents who normally leave their car on the street overnight in the affected areas should consider alternate parking. Lack of access to the area, unruly crowds and damage to personal property are real possibilities.

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